



ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA



Christ Church Lavender Bay Newsletter

Christ Church Lavender Bay
Striving for personal maturity in Christ
Building the body of Christ
Providing hope through Christ

October/November 2020

www.cclb.org.au

Focus on youth and children

One of our important goals is to expand our ministry. And that means we need to reach out to all, from children, to teenagers, young adults, singles and married couples, along with those who are maturing and mature. 2020/21 marks the point when we step up the push to realise this goal. One of the keys to this is to encourage teens and young adults to use their God-given gifts in the service of our Church and our God. Below are vignettes of just some of our younger members; we thank God for their contribution.



Isaac and Vivian Cheng enjoy Kids' Spot with Emily

Emily: ministering to children and youth

Ministering to youth and children is the job spec of **Emily Edwards** who recently took on this role as part-time staffer. Emily: "In the 10am service, there's Kids' Spot, a craft activity and other things for the family to do. During the week, I'd love to meet families in-person or virtually. For the 5pm Gathering, we'd like all people to come, including families but especially teenagers. We'd love to start a youth Bible Study, maybe a segment during the Gathering. Watch this space!"



Archie: discovering nature

Archie: doing it for church and the Duke

The scope of the Duke of Edinburgh Award at Barker College was cut back due to COVID. So **Archie Douglas** looked for other activities. One on offer was thanks to our gardening expert, **Anne Mason**. Archie: "We built a new green waste enclosure, completed some remedial ground work and replanted the rectory flower garden. Thanks to Anne, I have learnt about the amazing capability of plants to adapt. As the English poet Gerard Manley Hopkins once said: 'One finds God through appreciation of the natural world.'"



James with Nungalinya teacher, Jim Watson and student

James: man of many gifts

James Flynn serves as parish councillor and leads services. He preaches at The Gathering and sings in the band. James: "I am excited about The Gathering and reaching out into our community with the love of Jesus. As spring arrives, we are hoping to hold Gathering services outside so that people walking by can see and hear that the church is active and approachable. I'm also keen to see us using technology well to engage the youth and young adults." (James' report about his visit to Nungalinya College in next column).



Davis (left) and Charlie Lankford

Charlie and Davis: serving on tech team

Lending an enthusiastic hand to run the sound and vision desk are members **Charlie** and **Davis Lankford**. They're two of the tech team. Charlie says: "I monitor the sound and make sure everybody in church and on-line can hear and that mikes are on at the right time. Davis is responsible for the two cameras and switching between the two. It's easy and it feels good to serve God in this way." PS More volunteers urgently needed to join tech team. No experience necessary. Training provided. Call Lachlan.

Two services, both in-person, both live-streamed and recorded

October Diary

Sun 4th 10am Holy Communion
5pm The Gathering

Sun 11th 10am Morning Prayer
5pm The Gathering

Sun 18th 10am Holy Communion
5pm The Gathering

Wed 21st 7am Parish Council

Sun 25th 10am Morning Prayer
5pm The Gathering

Bible Study Groups

Monday nights (fortnightly) Bible Study Group (Contact Keith & Anne Mason)
Monday nights: Bible Study Group (Contact Geoff Kells)
Thursday mornings: Rectory Bible Study Group (contact Ann Kells)
Thursday night: Bible Study Group (contact Jurgen and Diane Joester)
Thursday night: Bible Study Group (Lachlan)

Visit to Nungalinya College

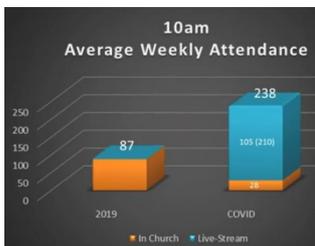
In late August, James Flynn had the privilege of visiting our BCA mission partner Jim Watson at Nungalinga College. James reports: "The college trains indigenous men and women for Bible-based leadership roles in communities. Jim takes care of the residential campus, which has a lovely village feel as home to dozens of students. The morning I visit is the first day of term; students are eagerly awaiting their first chapel service. They have come from different indigenous nations with different languages and everyone is new. We begin singing the well-known hymn 'Jesus loves me this I know' – but quickly takes an exceptional turn - from singing in English to Kriol, from Kriol to Tiwi and then into Mawng. They didn't know each other, but they all knew Jesus. The college is a glimpse of the image in Revelation: people from all nations gathering around the throne of God and worshipping him together in song. Please pray for the college as they search for a new Anglican Dean of Students, as they develop new teaching courses and expand the facilities.

The faithful make progress, despite challenges



2020 Parish Council:
Lachlan Edwards, Helen Wheeler, Chris Gilbert, Ian Davidson, Jürgen Joester, James Flynn, Philippa Armfield, Rod Pearse, Anita Barnett, Brian England, Linda Howe, Penny Morris

How have we fared over the first six months of a year like no other? **Lachlan** summed up the remarkable achievements: "On 22nd March, we started live-streaming and no one physically gathered for church. We had our AGM on line where we elected office-bearers. We started up our digital Lavender Card so that people could communicate with us. We letter-box-dropped 5000 flyers inviting folk to Easter services live-stream. **Emily** started up her Kids' Spot on-line and is now employed one day a week for our children and youth ministry. So that our church family could feel connected and get to know each other better, we had some 22 on-line interviews. We took most of our Bible studies on-line. We developed a pastoral care network to connect with those who felt isolated. Unable to stage our Anglicare Food Drive in the community, we (safely) centralised collection at church with a record result. And, at last, on 28th June, we re-opened our doors, following diocesan advice and NSW Department of Health regulations."



Lots of newcomers via live-stream

How are we going as a church?

Praise be to God for the work he has done (through team effort, creativity and technology) to extend our ministry. In the 2019 10am service, the average attendance was 87. During April-June 2020, in-church and live-stream, an estimated average of 238 joined in the services each week. (comprising average 28 in-person, plus an estimated 210 on-line.) For The Gathering, a combined average total of 78 participated in each service compared to 21 in 2019. Let us pray that those who have visited us on line, one day, might worship in-person!

Rejuvenation fund: your continued support needed

From **Rod Pearse**: "On 25th August last year, on the 150th anniversary of Christchurch, we launched the Rejuvenation project. We set ourselves the goal of raising \$500k over five years to rejuvenate our Church. Over the last year we have raised \$155K through EFT and cheque donations from our congregation. And we have been granted \$20K from the NSW Community Building Grant scheme. So that's a great start to our rejuvenation project. Thank you so much to those who have donated generously to enable this to be achieved. We have completed our first project, the replacement of the south-side Gables both on time and on budget. The cost was \$59k which was funded from CCLB's dedicated rejuvenation account. Our second project is to replace the gables on the north side which is expected to cost a similar amount; we have raised sufficient funds to achieve this. But we also need to maintain our Church stonework, to upgrade wiring/plumbing and our Church kitchen, to tidy up our paths/hand railings, and to lop/cut back some of our trees. And so on. We have a long way to go and we need your continued support. Donations and EFT giving to the CCLB Rejuvenation account most welcome." Rejuvenation Fund Account BSB: 633000 Account: 168439784



In what areas do we need help on rosters? Contact Lachlan.

What is Elvanto and why are we using it?

Elvanto is a secure, cloud-based, church management system used in many churches. Elvanto assists the ministry team plan services, organise rosters, manage Bible study groups, our church calendar and special event bookings. It gives each of us an easy way to control our own contact details so we can communicate with other church members. Not sure how to access Elvanto? Got questions? Like to be on a roster? Contact **Leisa** on 0401 391 727 or motherof_pearl@yahoo.com.au

Rector's Message

A number of people have commented how much they are enjoying our current Daniel sermon series. We've been given an insight of how a small tumultuous part of history fits into God's overarching salvation plan. We've been encouraged that the persecuted exiled minority remained faithful to God, whilst actively seeking the best for the city that they were in. In Daniel 3:17-18 there is an incredible faithful remark given by the three friends: *If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve will deliver us. But even if he does not, we will continue to honour God.* May we, like Daniel and his friends in their stressful times, continue to honour God and seek the good of the city by sharing the hope we have in Jesus.

Rev Lachlan Edwards, Senior Minister, Christ Church, Lavender Bay

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November Diary

Edwards family away 26/10 - 9/11

Sun 1st 10am Holy Communion
Rev Peter Smart
5pm The Gathering

Sun 8th 10am Morning Prayer
5pm The Gathering
Defence Chaplain Rev Steve Wakeford

Sun 15th 10am Holy Communion
5pm The Gathering

Wed 21st 7am Parish Council

Sun 22nd 10am Morning Prayer
5pm The Gathering

Sun 29th 10am Prayer, Praise and Proclamation
5pm The Gathering

Buzz from the Bay



Thank you spring cleaners!

They came, wiped, waxed, cleaned, weeded, planted, trimmed, raked, and bagged. A huge thank you to all! Above: Just some of the band of volunteers: From left: Caroline Thornton, Anita Barnett, Di Collins, Frances Duke and Ros Wilson

Upcoming sermon series

We will continue in our Daniel Series through October. In November we will explore more of the 39 Articles. Rev. Peter Smart will be a guest speaker for the first of these on 1st November. On the 8th November Defence Chaplain Rev. Steve Wakeford will speak at both the 10am and 5pm services.

Assistant Minister

Parish Council has firmed up plans for an Assistant Minister. Lachlan is currently formalising the search process. The appointment will be a part time role. Please pray for the right person to assist Lachlan in our mission to be mature in Christ, build up the body of Christ and provide hope through Christ.

BCA donations in lieu

A message from Caroline Thornton: For people who wish to hang on to their boxes, the next box opening will not be until March next year, if restrictions have been eased and people have gone back to using coins! All donations are very much appreciated by BCA. Here's how: The BCA bank for Direct Deposit is Westpac, BSB 032 008, Account 000706. If people prefer to make a donation by credit card, the number to telephone is 02 9262 5017. Another option is to go to the BCA Website and pay online (bushchurchaid.com.au/donate).